Section 1

Award & Title  MSc Dietetics DIETM

Material Information Summary for Postgraduate Applicants 2020/21

Confirmed at 23/07/2019

General Information

Award  Master of Science Dietetics

Contained Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PG Certificate</td>
<td>Nutritional Studies</td>
<td>60 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG Diploma</td>
<td>Nutritional Studies</td>
<td>120 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG Diploma</td>
<td>Dietetics</td>
<td>120 credits and successful completion of practice placement (A, B, C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>Applied Nutrition</td>
<td>180 credits (unsuccesful completion of practice placements)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB: To achieve the MSc Applied Nutrition students must undertake an additional 20 credit module in place of the post Practice Placement Reflection and Consolidation module.

Aegrotat Award  An Aegrotat Award does not lead to eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC (Standards of Education and Training 6.19.)

Awarding Body  Leeds Beckett University

Level of Qualification & Credits  Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England

Course Lengths & Standard

Timescales  Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below:

- 2 years full time, campus based.

Location(s) of Delivery  City Campus, Leeds
3 practice placement components: practice placement A (3 weeks), practice placement B (13 weeks) and practice placement C (12 weeks) in various locations across the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber.

**Delivery outside normal academic year**

This is a two-year professional vocational course that will operate outside the academic calendar. This is to enable students enough time to accommodate practice placement and to carry out a supervised independent piece of research.

**Entry Requirements**

Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning).

Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

**Course Fees**

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

**Timetable Information**

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

i) The Student Outlook Calendar

ii) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)

iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

**Policies, Standards and Regulations** [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information)

This course is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and is accredited by the British Dietetic Association (BDA). Dietetics is a professional competency based course preparing students to work with the public. Therefore students are expected to act in a professional manner at all times and students should adhere to the university Policy, regulations and procedures relating to fitness to practice which can be found here:
Threshold pass:
Students must obtain at least 40% in each module. In addition, students must obtain at least 35% in each component of assessment within a module. A mark of between 35% and 39% may be compensated by the other component of assessment within the module.

To comply with Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Education and Training, the university have explicit effective student complaints procedures including appeal about an academic decision:
http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/complaints.htm

Pre-requisite modules:
Students must successfully complete Research Methods for Nutrition 20 credit module prior to undertaking the Research and Practice Development 40 credit Module.

Award - Provision for the recommendation of merit and distinction:
Students will be awarded with ‘merit’ on demonstrating the following:

- A profile of achievement of a mark of 60-69% in modules whereby the assessment contributes to the final award; MSc Dietetics (180 credits).

Students will be awarded with ‘distinction’ on demonstrating the following:

- A profile of achievement of a mark of 70% or above in modules whereby the assessment contributes to the final award; MSc Dietetics (180 credits).

Students who successfully complete the MSc Dietetics including the placement component will be eligible to apply for HCPC registration. Awarding students ‘merit’ or ‘distinction’ acknowledges students’ academic achievement. Furthermore, the University and dietetic profession alike are keen to encourage students to pursue additional qualifications to PhD level and therefore, some differentiation in award may be helpful in terms of identifying student ability.

Attendance requirements:
To comply with HCPC Guidance on conduct and ethics for students section 2 (effective communication with members of academic staff, practice placement providers and service users) students must attend a minimum of 80% of the communication skills course within the Professional Development for Practice module and successfully complete the associated assessment.
Progression to Research and Practice Development module
Students must successfully complete the Research Methods for Nutrition module before embarking on the Research and Practice Development module.

Progression to practice placement:
All first-year modules (other than the Research Methods for Nutrition module) must be passed with a minimum mark of 40% and at least 35% in each component of assessment. Practice placement A provides students the opportunity to observe the working life of a dietitian and must have been completed before the student can progress into year 2 and undertake Practice Placement B. Students must also undertake the following mandatory training in preparation for NHS practice placement: basic life support, fire safety, infection control, information governance, moving and handling, safeguarding and food safety in catering.

The following progression arrangements are in place in line with HCPC requirements and Professional Body (British Dietetic Association Curriculum Guidance):
https://www.bda.uk.com/training/practice/preregcurriculum

Practice placements are approved and allocated by the Dietetics Placement Team in collaboration with the Health and Social Care Practice Learning Team. The course must comply with this system to maintain professional accreditation.

Progression through Practice Placements
The following progression statements relate to those agreed between the Practice Learning Team as part of the Northern Dietetic Stakeholder Partnership (NDSP) and Practice Educators in the Northern Cluster (covering the North East and Yorkshire and the Humber Local Education Training Boards). It is hoped that the Progress Towards Learning Outcomes (PTLOs) frameworks for practice placements B and C will help both students and practice educators identify students who are failing to meet Learning/Outcomes (LOs) and guide their progress accordingly.

Progression from Practice Placement A to Practice Placement B
Students must undertake Practice Placement A and successfully complete the following first year modules prior to undertaking Practice Placement B: Nutrition Advances in Practice, Lifestyle & Long-Term Conditions, Professional Development for Practice, Applied Nutrition Support, Enterprise in Public Health Nutrition).

Progression from Practice Placement B to Practice Placement C
- Students who achieve competency in all learning outcomes progress to post Practice Placement B reflective block (PG) and Practice Placement C.
• Students who are working towards competency in 1-2 Learning Outcomes and who have achieved competency in all the other 7 Learning Outcomes may progress to Practice Placement C. Students must demonstrate competency in the 1-2 Learning Outcomes at Practice Placement B threshold by week 6 of Practice Placement C
• Students who are working towards competency in 3-4 Learning Outcomes should undertake an additional 4-6 weeks of Practice Placement B.
• Students who are working towards competency in 5-6 Learning Outcomes should undertake an additional 13 weeks of Practice Placement B.
• Students who are working towards competency in 7-9 Learning Outcomes will not be offered a further Practice Placement B.
• Students who have not demonstrated competency in 6 or more Learning Outcomes will not be offered a further Practice Placement B.
• All extended placements will be agreed in conjunction with the university tutor, relevant practice educator, the practice lead and placement co-ordinator in collaboration with the external examiner.

Progression from Practice Placement C to final reflective block
• Practice Placement C must be completed before the student can complete the final post Practice Placement C Reflection and Consolidation module (PG).
• Students who achieve competency in all learning outcomes progress to the post C period of the course.
• Students who are working towards competency in 1 Learning Outcome and who have achieved competency in all other 8 Learning Outcomes may be allowed to continue Practice Placement C for a further 2 weeks to facilitate a pass, dependant on the agreement of the named trainer.
• Students who are working towards competency in 2 Learning Outcomes should complete an extended period of training which would be between 4-6 weeks of Practice Placement C.
• Students who are working towards competency in 3-6 Learning Outcomes must repeat 12 additional weeks of Practice Placement C.
• Students who are working towards competency in 7-9 Learning Outcomes will not be offered a further Practice Placement C.
• Students who have not demonstrated competency in 6 or more Learning Outcomes will not be offered a further Practice Placement C

In the event of failure
In the event of failure to achieve a satisfactory standard at the end of Practice Placement B or Practice Placement C the student and the University tutor must each be informed of the reasons for the failure.
The final assessment should be undertaken at the end of the practice placement and before the student leaves the practice placement in order that adequate feedback can be given. A student cannot normally fail the practice placement before she/he has completed the full number of practice placement weeks for that practice placement.

Any repeat or extended practice placements are agreed within the guidelines of the BDA Curriculum Framework (BDA, 2013).

**Failure of Practice Placement B**
- If the student has not met competency in more than 4 learning outcomes they must repeat the whole 13 weeks of practice placement.
- If the student has not met competency in all learning outcomes at the end of a 4 to 6-week period of extended training, they must repeat the whole 13-week practice placement.
- The student is not normally permitted more than 2 attempts at practice placement B or more than 500 hours of repeated practice placement as specified in the BDA curriculum framework.

**Failure of Practice Placement C**
- If the student has not met competency in 3 or more LO’s they must repeat the whole 12 weeks of practice placement.
- If the student has not met competency in all learning outcomes at the end of a 4 to 6-week period of extended training, they must repeat the whole 12-week practice placement.
- The student is not normally permitted more than 2 attempts at Practice Placement C or more than 500 hours total of repeat practice placement.
- It should be noted that if a student has already repeated Practice Placement B they will not be eligible to repeat Practice Placement C due to the limit of hours of repeat practice placement available to them. They might be eligible to extend their Practice Placement C by up to 3 weeks, dependant on the hours taken for their repeat B so long as they do not exceed 500 hours repeat practice placement.

**Extended training due to absence**
If the student misses some of the 13-week Practice Placement B or 12-week Practice Placement C due to absence, e.g. sickness, the following action should be taken:

**Loss of up to 5 practice placement days**
No action needs to be taken if the Practice Educator considers that there is no detrimental effect on the student’s progress, i.e. they have demonstrated competence in all the learning outcomes for that practice placement. If this is not the case the lost time must be made up.

**Loss of more than 5 practice placement days**
The student must complete a minimum of 12 weeks for Practice Placement B and 11 weeks for Practice Placement C. Any days lost due to illness or other absence must be repeated to demonstrate the minimum attendance level for each practice placement. No action needs to be taken beyond this if the Practice Educator considers that there is no detrimental effect on the student’s progress, i.e. they have demonstrated competence in all the learning outcomes. If this is not the case the rest of the lost time should be made up.

If a student requires a prolonged period of absence from their practice placement, the period of training required will be determined in consultation with the Practice Educator and the University Tutor.

The assessment regulations which apply to Leeds Beckett awards are accessible in full via section C of the Academic Regulations:
http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information/academic-regulations/

Key Contacts

Your Course Director  
To be confirmed upon arrival

Your Academic Advisor  
To be confirmed upon arrival

Your Course Administrator  
Sharon Caden S.Caden@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Sandwich or Other ‘In Year’ Work Placement Information

Summary

The BDA Curriculum Framework (2013) recommends that a student should normally experience 1000 hours in practice learning. Students undertake 3 blocks of practice placement in the NHS or an alternative quality assured provider. This equates to 28 x 36-hour weeks of placement. Practice Placements are approved, quality assured and allocated within arrangements established by the Health and Social Care Practice Learning Team and where appropriate agreed with Health Education Yorkshire and Humber (HEYH) and NHS Trusts. The Course must comply with this system to maintain Professional Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) approval and meet the requirements of Education commissioners.

Length

Placements are interspersed by periods of teaching at the University as follows:

Practice Placement A: This is an ‘observational’ practice placement (3 weeks) at the start of January in year 1.
Practice Placement B: This practice placement (13 weeks) focuses on ‘building’ competencies at the start of September in year 2.

Practice Placement C: This practice placement (12 weeks) focuses on ‘consolidation’ and follows a 4-week block of teaching in University at the start February in year 2.

Location

The 3 practice placement components: practice placement A (3 weeks), practice placement B (13 weeks) and practice placement C (12 weeks) take place in various locations across the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber. Students have the opportunity to state their preferred location, but this cannot be guaranteed. Students who are considered to have priority needs will be allocated their choice of placement in advance of those students who do not meet these criteria.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Bodies

Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) & British Dietetic Association (BDA)

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

This course is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and is accredited by the British Dietetic Association (BDA). Dietetics is a professional competency-based course preparing students to work with the public. Therefore, students are always expected to act in a professional manner and students should adhere to the university Policy, regulations and procedures relating to fitness to practice which can be found here: http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information/student-regulations/

On qualification the new graduate should be capable of contributing to clinical governance through the delivery of evidence-based, client-centred health-care. The provision of healthcare is no longer the sole responsibility of the NHS, therefore graduates are introduced to working within multi-agency settings such as local authorities and voluntary organisations throughout the course.

Within the School the course team, Health and Social Care Practice Learning Team and careers service, work in conjunction with each other to ensure that students are prepared for placement and work related learning (WRL) experiences and that they are matched to experiences that are a good fit with their skills and/or chosen vocation.
A dedicated team of placement officers work with the course teams to source potential placements and WRL well in advance of the start date and allocate these opportunities appropriately to individual students considering any professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements. All students go through a process of skills analysis and professional development including communication skills before embarking on a practice placement.

Additionally, our students are signposted to a variety of volunteering opportunities available through the student’s union and the volunteering and partnerships offices which enable them to gain further work related learning and employability skills. Our students also have access to the careers service and online employability resources (EROL) which help to prepare them for job applications and interviews and critically evaluate their employment prospects and identify potential opportunities.

**Course Overview**

**Aims**

The aims of the programme are to:

1. To offer Postgraduate entrants with a strong science background a fast track route to eligibility to apply for registration in Dietetics with the Health and Care Profession’s Council.

2. To produce Postgraduates with a sound knowledge of the evidence base which underpins nutrition and dietetics, who can apply enquiry and research to continually progress their learning and practice in new areas and situations that present to them.

3. To enable Postgraduates to work effectively across acute, primary care and Public Health settings and organisational structures to progress quality, innovation and enterprise in dietetic service provision within a changing health and social care sector.

4. To develop autonomous, reflective learners at the point of graduation who have the foundation for life-long learning and professional development to enhance evidence-based practice and professional standards and advance career aspirations.

5. To develop to a high level, the professional skills and competencies essential for Postgraduates to integrate theory and practice and work collaboratively to deliver safe and effective care within Professional Regulatory and Statutory Body standards and Governance frameworks.
6. To enhance and embed effective communication skills enabling Postgraduates to demonstrate core practitioner qualities and work using a patient centred approach to support behaviour change with individual service users, groups and communities.

7. To produce postgraduate students who have sound research skills and the ability to undertake an independent piece of research at Masters level.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LO1</th>
<th>Integrate and synthesise the research evidence, theory and principles underpinning Human Nutrition and Dietetics; clinical sciences, pharmacology, sociological and psychological issues, with the professional and diet therapy knowledge and skills to inform the holistic and effective care of service users with acute, lifestyle and long-term conditions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LO2</td>
<td>Apply an enquiring, systematic, problem solving; self-evaluative approach with the commitment to use research, clinical guidelines and policy in the evaluation and improvement of evidence based dietetic practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO3</td>
<td>Adopt a holistic and critically evaluative approach to the application of dietetic practice in lifestyle and long-term conditions working through collaborative, multidisciplinary and multi-agency professional relationships and across care pathways throughout health and social care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO4</td>
<td>Demonstrate competent practice in the application of the dietetic care pathway in a range of therapeutic conditions including nutritional assessment, calculating requirements, adaptation of diet, and consideration of psychosocial and ethical issues in implementing the professional skills needed to justify and apply diet therapy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO5</td>
<td>Integrate theoretical principles within a patient centred approach with the communication skills and professional practice required to facilitate behaviour change in individuals, groups and communities to promote health, employing a range of strategies to overcome barriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO6</td>
<td>Demonstrate the research acumen, professional skills and abilities, values and behaviours of a registered dietitian working autonomously within the complex framework of accountability, ethical and legal boundaries to meet Employer frameworks and Professional Regulatory and Statutory Body Standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO7</td>
<td>Critically apply leadership and enterprise skills to develop interventions and business plans, to promote public health nutrition and which are inclusive of Stakeholder needs and address the wider health and social care context.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LO8</td>
<td>Work strategically within Governance frameworks affecting the organisation and delivery of care as part of integrated teams to innovate and lead highly reliable systems that span health economies to improve patient outcomes and deliver high quality nutritional care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO9</td>
<td>Critically reflect in and on practice to progress professional development, meet, Professional Standards and evidence competencies to Employers supporting transition into the work place, post-registration learning and career aspirations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO10</td>
<td>Critically appraise areas of dietetic practice and contribute to relevant bodies of research and evidence-based practice through the delivery of an independent high-quality piece of research at Masters level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO11</td>
<td>Apply the relevant skills and knowledge in a Practice Dietetic environment to demonstrate the competencies required to be eligible to apply for HCPC Registration as a Dietitian.</td>
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**Teaching and Learning Activities**

**Summary**

Teaching takes place in multi-purpose rooms with additional specialised facilities for technical, clinical and interpersonal skills development. In addition, the course has access to a purpose-built catering laboratory.

Teaching approaches include: staff-led lectures and workshops, student-led seminars and workshops, practical work, tutorials, clinically-based teaching, case studies, problem solving exercises, reflective learning techniques, computer-assisted learning, simulated practice and inter-personal group skills.

Hand-outs and booklets are used occasionally however, we do utilise a more diverse range of online tools to support student learning. We use a considerable amount of computer-based learning (flipped classroom) that enriches the versatility of delivery.

Problem solving exercises and case studies enable students to integrate their knowledge and increase their interest in the subject matter. Oral communication and the ability to work effectively in groups are developed by assignments such as group presentations and seminars. Interpersonal skills and interviewing techniques are developed in workshops. During the practice placements, students are required to develop portfolios and learning logs of work experience.

**Your Modules**

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

**Level 7 Core Modules**

Nutrition Advances in Practice
Professional Development for Practice
Lifestyle & Long-Term Conditions
Applied Nutrition Support
Enterprise in Public Health Nutrition
Reflection and Consolidation
Research Methods for Nutrition
Research and Practice Development
Practice Placement (A, B and C)

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from the core modules undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment
On this course, students will be assessed using a variety of different methods. For example, written exams, oral exams, online portfolios, group work, reports, coursework, practical exercises and performance on practice placement. Students must also complete an independent research project culminating in a written dissertation. Full details of the summative assessments for each module will be illustrated in the Module Handbooks.

Workload

The number of hours of workload generally equates to 1800 for Masters programmes, 1200 for PG Diplomas and 600 for PGCerts, corresponding to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point. The following information provides an indication of the time required for different activities on your course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Workload for the Course</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching, Learning and Assessment</td>
<td>351 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>1449 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement</td>
<td>1050 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Learning Support**

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students’ Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Hub on either campus to speak to our Student Experience Team. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. Email enquiries may be directed to studentexperience@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students’ Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.